

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

VOL. IV.—NO. 21

TORONTO, THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1896.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THE QUEBEC BISHOPS.

A Joint Declaration on the Manitoba School Question.

The Sacred Trustees of the Balfour—The Duty of Catholics—The Support of Candidates Who Will Remedy the Injustice Done to the Catholic Minority—Non-Partisan Position Taken up.

MONTRÉAL, May 17.—The united declaration of the Bishops of Quebec regarding the Manitoba School question was read in all the Catholic churches to-day. It is signed by the Bishops of the ecclesiastical provinces of Montreal, Quebec and Ottawa. name by—

The Archbishop of Montreal.
The Archbishop of Quebec.
The Bishop of Three Rivers.
The Bishop of Nicolet.
The Bishop of Chicoutimi.
The Bishop of Sherbrooke.
The Bishop of Valleyfield.
The Bishop of St. Hyacinthe.
The Bishop of Rimouski.
The Archbishop of Ottawa.
The Bishop of Pontiac.

It begins by remarking that the Bishops, as successors of the Apostles, have not only the mission to teach Catholic truths at all times, but also, at certain critical and dangerous moments, they have the right and it is their duty to raise their voices either to warn the faithful against certain dangers which threaten their faith, or to direct, stimulate and uphold them in the just revendication of rights which are not proscribed, but which are manifestly unrecognized and violated.

The declaration goes on:—"You all know, dear brethren, the unfortunate conditions in which our co-religionists of Manitoba were placed by the unjust laws which deprived them six years ago of their Separate School system, which was guaranteed to them until then even by the constitution of the country. This does not mean a necessary school system in a mixed community to the good education and to bringing up of children according to the principles of the Catholic faith which is to us on earth our most precious heritage. We do not require, our dear beloved brethren, the decisions of civil courts to make us aware of the iniquity of those Manitoba laws against liberty and justice; but it pleased divine Providence in His wisdom and kindness to help the Catholics by the legal support of a Sovereign and unquestionable authority by having acknowledged by the highest court of the empire the legitimacy of their complaints and the legality of Federal remedial legislation.

In the presence of these facts, the Canadian episcopacy, having before all things the interest of religion, and for the good of souls, could not dissimulate the gravity of the duty imposed upon its pastoral solicitude and which obliged it to claim justice as it has done.

If the Bishops exercise authority springs from God Himself, are the natural judges of a question which involves the Christian faith, religion and morality; if they are the recognized chiefs of a society, perfect, sovereign, superior by its nature and by its end to civil society, it belongs to them, when circumstances demand, not only to express their views and desires in all matters of religion, but also to point out to the faithful, or to approve the proper means to arrive at the spiritual end which they propose to reach. This does not mean that the Bishops, in the words of Pope Leo XIII. in his encyclical Immortale Dei:—"All that which in human things is sacred by any title whatever, all that which touches the safety of souls and worship of God, either by its nature or by relation to its aim, all that is under the authority of the church."

"We must briefly recall these principles, inherent in the very constitution of the church; these essential rights of religious authority, in order to justify the attitude taken by the members of the hierarchy in the present school question and to better make understood the obligations of the faithful to follow episcopal directions.

"If, in fact, there are circumstances where Catholics should openly manifest towards the church all the respect and devotion which it has a right to, it is when, like in the present crisis, the foremost interest of the faith and justice are involved, and claim of all good men under the direction of their chiefs an efficacious help.

"We had hoped dearly beloved brethren, that the last session of the Federal Parliament would put an end to the school difficulty, which has so divided the minds of the people, but we were deceived in our hopes. History itself will judge the cause which delayed the solution long expected. As far as we are concerned, and in the presence of the electoral battle now going on, we consider we have an imperative duty to perform.

"That duty is to indicate to the faithful submitted to our jurisdiction, and whose consciences we are bound to direct, the only line of conduct to follow in the present election."

The document then draws the attention of the electors to the important duty given them to cast their votes in favor of the best candidates, and adds that as a general rule, save a few exceptions, it is a matter of conscience for

every citizen to vote, a duty which is of the utmost importance, particularly when important questions are submitted to them, and which may have on their destinies a most decisive influence—that is to say, that your votes should be given in a wise and honest manner, and worthily of intelligent and Christian morality. The excessive eagerness which several times already we have put you on guard—that is, perjury, intemperance, lying, calumny and violence, this party spirit which falsifies the judgment and produces on the intelligence a sort of voluntary and obstinate blindness. Do not exchange your vote for a few pieces of money.

"Your vote is a duty, and duty cannot be sold. Do not give your vote to the first man that comes, but to the man who, in your conscience and under the eyes of God, you judge the most able by his good qualities of mind, the firmness of his character and the excellence of his principles and conduct, to fulfill the noble duties of the Legislator.

But under the circumstances the duty of the electors of Canada, principally the Catholic electors, has a special character of importance and gravity, to which we desire specially to draw your attention. A grave injustice has been done to the Catholic minority in Manitoba—The Catholic schools—their Separate schools—were taken from them, and parents have to send their children to schools that their conscience does not approve of.

"The Privy Council of England has recognized the claims of Catholics, the legitimacy of their complaints and the right of intervention of the Federal authorities, so that justice be rendered the oppressed. It is thus at present the duty of Catholics, with the help of well-thinking Protestants of our country, to join forces and their votes so as to assure the definite victory of religious liberty and the triumph of rights guaranteed by the constitution.

"The means to attain this object is to only elect as representatives of the people men who are sincerely resolved to favor with all their influence and to support in the House a measure which would be an efficacious remedy for the evils suffered by the Manitoba minority.

In thus speaking to you, our dearly beloved brethren, our intention is not to side with any of the political parties now agitating the public arena. On the contrary, we wish to reserve our liberty. But the Manitoba school question being before all a religious question, intimately bound to the dearest interests of the Catholic faith in this country, to the nature of the Catholic faith, as also to the respect due to the constitution of the country and to the British Crown, we would consider ourselves traitors to the sacred cause of which we are the defenders if we did not use our authority to assure its success.

"Please remark, our dearly beloved brethren, that a Catholic is not permitted, let him be journalist, doctor, candidate or member, to have two lines of conduct in a religious point of view, one for private life and one for public life, and to treat himself and his feet in the exercise of duties not social obligations imposed on him by his title of a submitted son of the Church. All Catholics should only vote for candidates who will formally and solemnly engage themselves to vote in Parliament in favor of the legislation giving to the Catholics of Manitoba the school laws which were recognized to them by the Privy Council of England. This grave duty imposes itself on all good Catholics, and we wish to see a justified number before your spiritual guides nor before God Himself to set aside this obligation.

"We have been able thus far to congratulate ourselves upon the sympathetic support of a large number of our separated brethren, and we wish to make a new appeal to the spirit of justice and to their patriotism, so as by joining their influence to that of Catholics they help with all their might to obtain the settlement of the complaints justly made by a portion of our co-religionists.

"What we ask for is the triumph of right and justice. It is the re-establishment of rights and privileges of the Roman Catholic minority in matters of education to our brothers in Manitoba, so as to shelter the Catholics of that Province from all attacks and from all arbitrary and unjust legislation."

AN IRISH CONVENTION.

New York Irishmen Preparing to Send a Delegation to the Great Exhibition.

NEW YORK, May 14.—The many factions into which the Irish Parliamentary Party has split since the death of Parnell may be united by a plan which has been proposed by Archbishop Walsh of Toronto, and which the Irish National Federation of America will follow. The suggestion is that representative Irishmen from every country should meet in convention in Dublin and formulate a plan for sending a delegation to the Exhibition of London in September. Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet will be one of the delegates, and so will John D. O'Riordan, Miles O'Brien, Judge Morgan, J. O'Brien and many other Irishmen of note.

ST. PETER'S, GODERICH.

Corner-Stone of the New Church Laid on Sunday

By His Lordship Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of London—Five Thousand People Witness the Ceremony—Sermon by the Bishop at St. Peter's—Father McRatry Preaches at the Corner-Stone Laying

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER.

GODERICH, May 17.—To-day the Catholic people of the picturesque town of Goderich witnessed an event to which they have been looking forward for many years. They saw the corner-stone of the beautiful new church, which soon will crown the loftiest bluff overlooking the valley of the Maitland river, laid with solemn ceremonies. The weather was beautiful and large crowds attended from outlying districts to participate with the people of St. Peter's in the happy occasion. All classes and creeds in Goderich manifested their pride in the undertaking and their respect for the worthy pastor of St. Peter's, Rev. Francis West, to whose energy is due the fact that the new church has been so soon begun. Goderich will not boast a more beautiful temple from the architectural stand-

point when the new St. Peter's is finished, as it is expected to be by November. The building was described in the last issue of THE REGISTER, and we present to our readers to-day a facsimile of the architect's drawing. This gives a good idea of the beauty of the structure. But no illustration could represent the strikingly beautiful site of the church. The town of Goderich is built on the high bank of the Maitland river valley, which as it widens towards the lake presents a charming scene. Beyond the blue water extends to the horizon, and smiling farms and green woods dot the landscape on the far side of the valley, while near at hand is the pretty town, covered at this season of the year in May blossoms between its spreading shade trees. St. Peter's is situated on the brow of the cliff where North street turns to run along the brink of the broad valley. This is the highest situation within the town and the tall spire of the church can be seen from any point for miles around. The material used in the structure is the handsome limestone of the local quarries pointed with the lighter Ohio stone. In the foundations, which are already complete, enormous blocks of this stone are used.

The five masses celebrated to-day were said in the old church, a frame building which is now all broken and shattered. Where the thin planks have fallen away upon the inside strips of the summer sky were visible, and the perfume-laden winds entered freely. At all the masses there were large and devout congregations. The High Mass at 10.30 was celebrated by Ven. Dean Murphy of Dublin, his Lordship Rt. Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of London assisted by Mr. J. F. Kelly, Rector of the sanctuary Rev. Dr. Kilroy of Stratford, Rev. Father McRatry, C.S.B., Toronto, and Rev. Francis West the pastor of St. Peter's Church.

After the Gospel the Bishop addressed the congregation. Father West had said had been kind enough to say the people would have pleasure in hearing their bishop. But it was a much greater pleasure than to come there to speak to them on such an occasion as this. The people had looked forward to this as a good deal of expectation, and he had given them a fine day for the ceremony of laying the corner-stone of the new church building. He knew there was not one among them who did not rejoice in his heart and thank God that he had given them the opportunity of witnessing this ceremony. His Lordship then proceeded to an explanation of the ceremony which he said, many of them had never before witnessed, and which few people have the privilege of witnessing often. He set forth the blessing of the cross, the foundation and the corner-stone of the building. In the sanctuary, or the part of the church distinctly reserved for the altar, a space had already been set up. It was the happy thought of their good pastor that the cross which had served them on the old church for so many years is the same cross that would be blessed in the ceremony of this day. They would understand from this that although they were to have a new building they have the same church.

week if possible. In conclusion His Lordship pronounced his blessing upon the people.

The corner stone was laid at 4 p.m. Five thousand people were present, and the Catholic portion of the vast congregation entered into the ceremony with the customary devotion. The other spectators followed the ceremony with marked respect. The people had come from Ashfield, Wawanosh, Colbourne, and other places. Besides the priests present in the morning there were:—Father Kennedy, Southey; Father Quigley, Ashfield; Father Corbett, Drysdale, and Father Dixon Kingsville. Among others assembled were:—Mr. M. C. Cameron, Judge Doyle, Messrs. J. J. Doyle, Jos. Kidd, Capt. A. M. McCregor, Mayor Shaughan, Goderich; E. Campion, Q. C., A. W. Holmes, the architect of the church, Graham Cameron, R. S. O'Brien, American Consul; Wm. Proudfoot, Rector of Goderich; Philip Holt, Deputy Rector, Goderich; James Mitchell, Oxford; D. McDonald, J. Wilson, J. McIntosh, James Doyle, Bernard McCormack, Thomas Carroll, Colborne; Thos. Lacy, Colborne; Wm. F. Kelly, Mrs. W. T. Kelly, Mrs. F. Jordan, Mrs. Chilton, the Misses Cameron, Miss Chilton, the Misses Cameron, Miss Campion, Miss Garrow, Miss Grace Lee, Miss Strachan, Miss Ausbrooke.

The corner-stone was without other inscription than the sign of the cross and the year 1896. The ceremonies of the usual character are always most impressive. The stone having been laid by His Lordship, Rev. Father McRatry, C.S.B., Toronto, standing upon it, delivered an address of

ORILLIA.

Devotion of the Forty Hours Opened in the Church of the Angels Guardian

As announced shortly after Easter by our respected pastor, Rev. Father Duffy, on Wednesday, the 14th inst., there opened at the Church of the Angels Guardian, the most beautiful and instructive devotional exercises of religion, meditated and authorized by the Holy Catholic Church, viz. the Forty Hours Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Ladies of the Altar Society had exerted their utmost energies in decorating and beautifying the Altar and Sanctuary of the sacred edifice, for the occasion, and their earnestness was amply demonstrated in the successful effect of their labors. At nine o'clock a.m. of that day Rev. Father Gilney of Alliston commenced the ceremonial "Solemn High Mass of Exposition," assisted by Rev. James Killeen of Alliston, as Deacon, Rev. J. H. Collin of Midland as Sub-deacon, with Rev. Father Duffy as Master of Ceremonies and George Moore as altar server.

This Mass was attended by a congregation that filled the Church to the doors, and from that hour until the closing prayer was recited and parting blessing pronounced priests and people solemnly entered into and continued the sacred office in their respective spheres.

On the morning of the second day, Very Rev. Dean Egan of Barrie celebrated the Mass "Pro Pace," and Rev. Father Duffy celebrated the Holy Mass of Exposition at the close of the exercises on Friday morning.

Rev. M. Moyna delivered two highly impressive and eloquent sermons the first on Wednesday evening and the second on Thursday evening, elaborating fully the importance of the occasion to the spiritual welfare of the flock.

It will be extremely gratifying to know that during the Forty Hours Exposition between six hundred and seven hundred approached Holy Communion. The members of Branch No. 57 of the C.M.B. attending in a body.

The visiting priests of the Diocese who materially assisted by their presence and pious work, and to whom much thanks is due and heartily given, were Rev. Fathers Gearin, Flos; Kiernan, Collingwood; McDuppis; Upergrove, and McRae, Brantford.

The Choir of the Church of the Angels Guardian, under able leadership, well maintained their important part in the sanctified work.

Rev. Father Duffy, always active, watchful, and ever present in those in his charge, has good cause to be highly gratified with the grand results of this most successful undertaking, and the good work entered into so earnestly, and carried out so thoroughly, has made doubly into the hearts of the people, who will long remember the happy event. It is but simple justice to remark that a deep and lasting impression was made upon the large numbers that took advantage of the opportunity to hear these very instructive sermons.

Retreat at Loreto Abbey.

On Wednesday evening last, the pupils of Loreto Abbey began their annual retreat which closed on Sunday morning. This religious exercise was conducted under the most favorable auspices possible. The beautiful morning of May 16th, the day on which the retreat claimed our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Ascension attracted their thoughts heavenwards, while the eloquent, persuasive words of the preacher held all entranced. Rev. F. Ryan's power is too well known to need comment, but as the retreat advanced, and the solemnity of the service increased, the sweeter atmosphere of devotion, the power happily chose the spot specially adapted for this little secluded spot, seed that needs not the world's sunshine for its maturity, but that once having taking root and blossoming through the life of the soul, its fragrance will perfume whatever atmosphere surrounds them. The instructions were eagerly looked forward to by all, and the days sped too quickly, listening to the old gospel stories with fresh interest as they were so sweetly interpreted, listening also to the grand descriptions of the valiant woman, which was no vain imagery placed before them, but a typical Christian woman, the limitation of whom was not beyond their range of possibility.

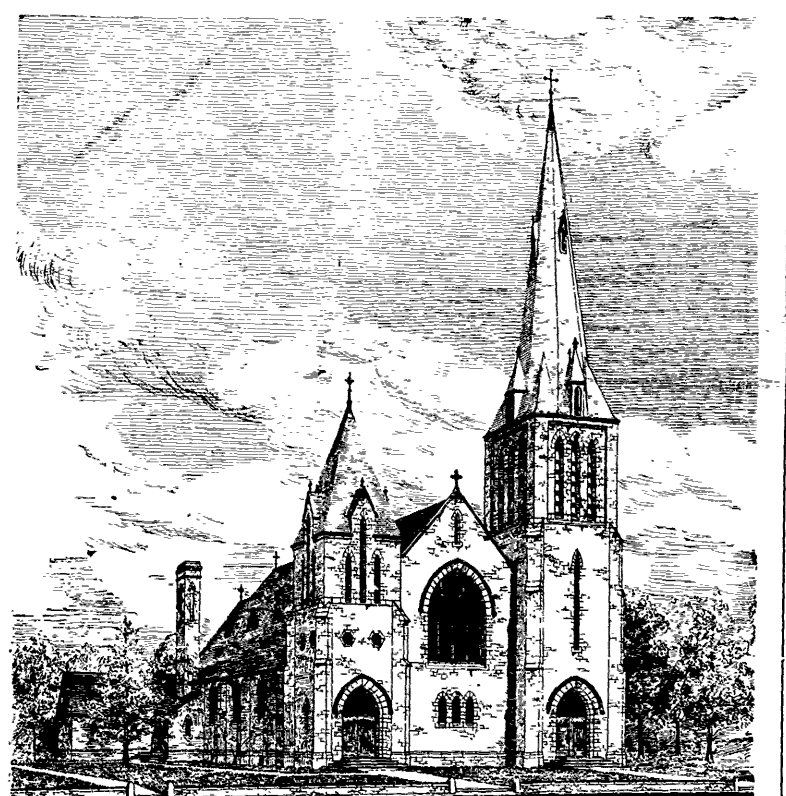
The retreat closed on Sunday morning, and the results will assuredly be lasting; God always blesses such a noble enterprise that evokes sacrifices from young and untiring souls on the part of the guide, which quality seems the distinguishing mark of Rev. F. Ryan's many good works.

The annual retreat for ladies in the world will be given at Loreto Abbey on the evening of July 2nd. It will be presided by Rev. F. Elovic, S.J., of New Orleans, a most eminent preacher and one calculated to ensure a happy result in such a praiseworthy cause. Judging from the success of last year's retreat it is expected that those days of grace will be prolific of much good. It is a privilege extended to all who wish to correspond to the intention that bids them seek for a short time that solitude so desirable in the spiritual life.

Those wishing for accommodation at the Abbey will apply to the Lady Superior with whom arrangements can be made. A cordial welcome is assured to all the ladies who wish to profit by this opportunity.

St. Basil's Choir.

At the High Mass on Sunday next at St. Basil's a choir will sing Haydn's First Mass. The Organist Mr. F. A. Anglin will sing "Veni Sancti Spiritus" will flute obligato.



CHURCH OF ST. PETER, GODERICH.

The Catholic Church is always the same, unchangeable and unchangeable from the life of her divine Founder—the same church, the same worship, the same acts of devotion, the same sacraments, the same holy sacrifice. In speaking of the blessing of the cross, which stood in the new building where the altar would be erected, his Lordship spoke at some length upon the altar and the holy sacrifice of the Mass. Sacrifice is the only form of worship worthy of God, and upon this altar the holy sacrifice of the Mass would be offered up for years, he hoped for centuries. Having concluded his most instructive explanation of the ceremony His Lordship mentioned that he was very much opposed to debt for many reasons. He was particularly opposed to debt upon the church building, which is the house of God, and surely they should all take a pride in making the house of God His and His only. In this country, however, where they had to take up so many things at once they had occasion to go into debt. But his Lordship said he would not allow a debt of more than \$5,000 upon the new church building. The congregation had already made great progress, and he knew they would pay promptly with God's blessing. These things would produce good to them one hundred-fold. He instructed the people to pray that the work would go on without accident, and that God would bless their church to-day and for all times. While the new building was in course of erection let them attend Mass regularly in the old church; broken almost to pieces though it is that should not keep the people from coming to Mass every day in the

great eloquence upon the visible Church of Christ. Speaking in the open air, and in the teeth of a strong Summer gale blowing fresh off the lake was no easy task; but the magnificent voice of the orator was heard with perfect distinctness by the thousands who thronged the streets in the vicinity. He spoke of the institution and mission of the Catholic Church, establishing its sole title as the Church of Christ. For half an hour his eloquence and clear argument upon controversial points won the admiration of his listeners. Many expressions of appreciation were heard upon the address.

His Lordship also addressed the people congratulating them upon the ceremony which had been performed and so many auspicious circumstances. The corner-stone had been laid with the words:—"In the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, we place this stone, put it in position; we do so that there may flourish, true faith, fear of God and brotherly love." Let them pray fervently that the temple they were erecting to glorify God would possess all graces and blessings and be worthy in His sight. St. Peter's will seat 700 people. The Catholics of Goderich are proud of their devoted pastor, Father West, who is leaving nothing undone to make St. Peter's one of the most beautiful churches in Ontario. Mr. A. W. Holmes, the architect of the building, is also proud of the work. He makes fortnightly inspections of his progress.

New Masses, St. School. A building permit has been issued to the Separate School Board for the erection of a new school on Backville street.